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Official Publication-N.H. Chapter A.I.A.



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COVER PICTURE

Progress photograph of the Dame Elementary School in Concord designed by Lyford & Magenau, Architects. Swansburg Construction Co., General Contractor.

Although this is a pre-war job, perhaps it makes a more interesting cover than a table of contents. Apparently most of us either neglect or forget to take progress photographs but they are usually more spectacular than pictures of completed projects.

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THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

It is most refreshing to discover those firms which endure the longest still holding fast to those qualities which have always been inherent where real genius prevailed in the blazing of trails across our country and in the constructing of our highways, railroads, dams, tunnels, and buildings.

An example of this is Winston Brothers Company of Minneapolis, one of America's oldest and illustrious contracting firms, this year celebrating its 75th anniversary. A really splendid achievement is portrayed in a folio which they have published commemorating this notable birthday.

Those of us in building design as well as those in the construction field ought to take note of the qualities and that pride of heritage which is such a powerful motivating force in the history of this company. Winstone's record reveals these fundamentals for success:

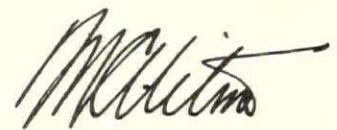
A stand-out for first place is integrity. The will to do a job according to promise, come what may; the constant attempt to exceed promise.

Then there is skill, built up slowly as job follows job and as new men bring new skills and new experience to the company. And there is courage to try new things, to discard old, to subject skills required on one type of work to the test of application on another type.

Our National President of the Amedican Institute of Architects, Ralph Walker, has warned us against architecture which holds blindly to the "party line" and so finding ourselves developing an impersonal architecture and becoming a faceless people housed in faceless architecture. Mass men tending mass machines, living in mass housing.

In our role as architects we can certainly play a more important part in the building of a greater America than that of following aimlessly after the mass hysteria which seems to grip so many these days. The winds of change are blowing a gale that is thick with dust. What is happening to life in the whirling obscurity?

One thing conspicuously, the crowding of ch and beauty to the wall. We need to more fully seek out the old ways wherein lie the and with clarity of mind step ahead into new adventures of today.



What is Happening to Residential Architecture

What is happening to architecture in connection with residential construction?

A recent issue of the Manchester Union tained a large special section on Building Real Estate, with no mention or reference any kind to architects or architecture (other than a couple of incidental references in on two descriptive articles).

Architecture—with a capital A—was spicuous by its absence. The builders can build houses all right without any help from ar tects, but if the illustrations in that issue were typical, the owners are still being exploited having the same old Carpenter Colonial foisted upon them. Can it be that this is what people want? The public press does not do good by giving publicity to shoddy design which an enlightened public would never think accepting. But the builders do furnish advertising revenue, so that papers don't worry much about their products, anymore than they worry about the products of other advertisers.

Because this problem is a continuing chal lenge to architects, let's show them what can be done! The June issue of the N. H. ARCHI TECT will be devoted to low-cost residential work—provided enough of you architects submit plans, photographs or renderings, data, area or cube figures, text, etc. Deadline is Tuesday, June 6.

"Face Lifting" The Victorian

By William L. White, Exeter, N. H.

Our towns in New England have many Victorian houses of that period between 1880 and 1900, some of them pretty bad in detail, not always too good in composition, but as a rule well built as to the bones of the structure, that were. Within, many of them have been sheathed with wood we would gladly welcome, were it obtainable today. Often baseboards of black walnut, cherry or good quality redwood.



West to South Elevation—Before.

The old lime plaster, on wood laths, is apt to be in poor condition due to application and removal of wall papers over a period of years. It does not pay to try to patch this, and it is possible to get a good painted wall surface. Time and expense are saved by removing it all, and plastering anew.

The rather high posted rooms and large sized windows constitute somewhat of a problem in living over this type of house, but by the use of wood cornices of appreciable depth and the introduction of a chair rail, the proportions of the room can be improved. To be sure these

high rooms and large windows are the delight of the interior decorator, but in many cases not so with the architect.

It may be said that small paned windows are out of keeping with the Victorian period, but they do give scale, and break up that outside appearance of a wall pierced with large black rectangles. Many of the houses of this period went in strongly for the forty-five degree



West to South Elevation—After.

splayed bay window with about half of the bay being taken up with wood corners. They were clumsy in appearance, difficult to look out of, the result being that they were used mostly as a repository for the rubber plant and the drooping fern.

Rooms containing these old type bay windows are made much more interesting by the use of the bow window as shown in accompanying photograph. In this case there are two. The larger one on the north elevation and forming one end of the living room goes nearly to

(Continued on page 7)



North Elevation—Before.



North Elevation—After.

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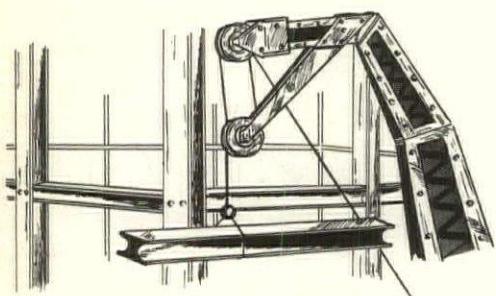


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American Architects not Attending Warsaw Congress Because of Herman Field Disappearance

Washington, D. C.—American architects refuse to take part in this year's International Congress of Architects in Warsaw, Poland, because of the disappearance there last April of Herman Field, Cleveland architect.

Ralph Walker, New York City, President of The American Institute of Architects, announced today that the A. I. A. has sent a resolution to that effect to the Secretary of the Union Internationale des Architectes in Paris, which sponsors the Congress. Mr. Walker sided over the pre-convention sessions of the A. I. A. Board of Directors held here in the offices of The Institute starting May 5 through May 8. He said Herman Field is a member of the A. I. A.

Mr. Walker, who is also a Vice-President of the U. I. A., added that the United States planned to send a delegation and an exhibition of the best work of American architects to the Warsaw Congress before Field disappeared.

Field was last seen August 22, 1949, as he passed through Polish customs to take a Czechoslovakian plane from Warsaw to Prague. His name appeared on the manifest, but had later been crossed out. Czechoslovakian authorities later claimed that he did not arrive in Prague.

Inquiries by the State Department to the Polish government have brought no word of Field's possible whereabouts.

The text of the A. I. A. resolution said in part that "it did not appear seemly for The American Institute of Architects to participate in the International Congress of the U. I. A. or to receive professional hospitality in such Congress so long as one of its members had disappeared in Poland, the country which is host for the next Congress of the U. I. A., or in any other country associated with Poland."

"FACE-LIFTING" THE VICTORIAN

(Continued from page 5)

floor. Due to the exposure, the modern double sealed glazing was used. The living room which was originally two "parlors" runs across the house with fireplace on the long side. The large bow window looks out on a led-in flower garden with wall fountain at the end.

The smaller bow window, on the west elevation and forming the feature side of the pine panelled study presents a vista out over rolling green meadows with pine-covered hills in the distance.

The most difficult problem in connection with this house was the treatment of the south side, which required making over the porch into a sun entrance hall, coat room and powder room. The original entrance was on the northeast corner and opened into the regulation long hall with the straight run of black walnut stairway.

An outdoor living room or loggia was added which terminates the south end of the walled garden. The floor of this room and the low wall beneath the arched openings is of stone and harmonize with the garden treatment. The living room and dining room open onto this loggia.



Bow Window in Study.

The complete operation of course included changes in the second floor bedrooms which resulted in a large master bedroom with dressing room and private bath.

The color scheme of the living room is shell white woodwork with walls a dark gray-green, the dining room white with a feature paper above the dado. The study is of old native pine panelled down very slightly, with the idea that it would do the rest in a few years.

photos show the home of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Batchelder, Hampton, N. H.

Architects Prove Box-like Colonial not essential for Low Cost Homes

Washington, D. C.—Winners of the second honor awards program of The American Institute of Architects emphasize beauty and livability, with a small but open plan. According to Albert Heino, Chicago, Chairman of the A. I. A. Committee on honor awards for current work, the solutions shown have aroused interest of the nation's merchant builders.

Winners of the first honor award for distinguished accomplishment in residential design is the house of H. C. Hvistendahl in California, designed by A. Quincy Jones, Jr., A. I. A., Los Angeles. Awards of Merit were given for the William Crocker house in Jausilito, designed by Mario Corbett of San Francisco, the home of Mrs. Harold Adams in Concord, Massachusetts, designed by Hugh Stubbins, Jr., Lexington, Mass.; and for the Roberta Finney house in Sarasota, Fla., designed by Twitchell and Rudolph, architects, of Sarasota, Fla. The jury for the awards in residential architecture was: Miss Elizabeth Gordon, Editor, *HOUSE BEAUTIFUL*, New York, Pietro Belluschi, F. A. I. A., Portland, Ore., Thomas H. Creighton, A. I. A., Editor, *PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE*, N. Y., George M. Martin, F. A. I. A., Cincinnati, and James T. Lendum, A. I. A., Small Homes Council, University of Illinois, Urbana.

The first honor award in residential architecture was given to a low-cost housing designed for repetitive building. It appealed to the jury for three principal reasons. Its plan is compact and workable with circulation carefully studied and the entire lot utilized as part of the living area. In appearance it is well handled with elements beautifully related and details carefully studied. In addition it is a serious and apparently successful attempt to approach the problem of the builder house in the low-cost field. It is designed for construction on any lot in San Diego County for \$8,500. The limitation of the program of 1200 square feet of useable floor area was aimed at the demonstration of good design in the low-cost field. In this field most of the construction in the country is handled by contractors and real estate concerns and the benefit of an architect's professional advice is too often overlooked. The submissions in the honor awards program gave evidence of the superior product that can come when the architect enters the low-cost housing field.



Northwest Elevation of Kidder Press.

Kidder Press Company of Dover Builds Modern Plant to Meet Expanding Business Needs

by MR. J. F. SHEPPARD, *Vice-President*

The Kidder Press Company here in Dover has two plants, the main plant on Broadway and a second plant on Locust Street. The new addition to the Broadway plant was found necessary to increase production and provide more satisfactory working conditions.

The building has been designed for maximum of light provided in a large expanse of windows on the northeast elevation. The extremely brilliant south-westerly light was reduced to eliminate glare by providing narrow windows on this elevation. The interior is artificially illuminated by means of incandescent and vapor units which provide approximately 45 foot candles at the working level of machines. The plan was designed with large bays 40' x 50' to permit a maximum use of floor space with a minimum of obstruction by columns. To eliminate any possibility of having to provide extensive concrete bases under high-speed, high-precision machines of great weight, the

entire slab under the building was designed with 5000 lb. concrete. It was interesting to note by actual test of the concrete mixed for this job we attained a strength of 4,780 lbs.

To provide resiliency and durable wear qualities on the floor, 1½" Kreolite wood blocks were used. The heavier of the precision machines were set directly upon a cast iron base anchored directly to the concrete slab under them. Recreation, toilet, and washroom facilities were provided on a mezzanine floor between the truss spaces, affording economy in the building use.

The Kidder Press Company was started in 1876 by one Wellington P. Kidder, who started manufacturing under his own name in Boston. It was in 1899 that Mr. Moore, for whom the Moore Corporation was named, bought the company and moved it to Dover in 1900. It was because Mr. Kidder had developed a Roll F

and Platen Press, which was then the best known for the production of salesbooks, etc., and many such presses were built for his companies both in this country and abroad. Many changes have taken place, of course, and now these forms, and many others developed along with various Accounting Machines over the past years, have changed the character of the equipment so that they are now all produced on very high speed multi-web presses with various sorts of attachments.

Some few years after moving to Dover the company embarked on a line of presses for the Wrapping Paper Industry, which at that time was nothing more than a small one-color Rotary for the beginning of the wrapping of bread. This line of equipment, along with the very rapid growth of the Packaging Industry, has caused us to develop five and six-color presses, of wide widths, and extremely high speeds, for the production of the modern bread wrapper, cracker wrappers, biscuit wrappers, etc. These, in the waxed paper field, largely. Furthermore, with the advent of cellophane and other transparent films, the Kidder Company has become a leader in Aniline Presses for that purpose and, more recently, has entered the Gravure field in multi-colors, for other types of products in the Packaging and Labeling Industry.

In addition, Kidder Press builds a line of several different types of Slitters and Winders for varying purposes and varying materials, and largely in the Paper Mills, or in the Contracting Trade, where certain of our Presses are used.

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Accounting Machines, that this new machine shop was made necessary. Even with this expansion, we are operating on two nine-hour shifts, and are quoting deliveries in the first quarter of 1951.

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Office of Maurice E. Witmer, Architects and Engineers, Portsmouth, N. H.

Construction by Harty Construction Company, Boston, Mass.

(Continued on page 11)

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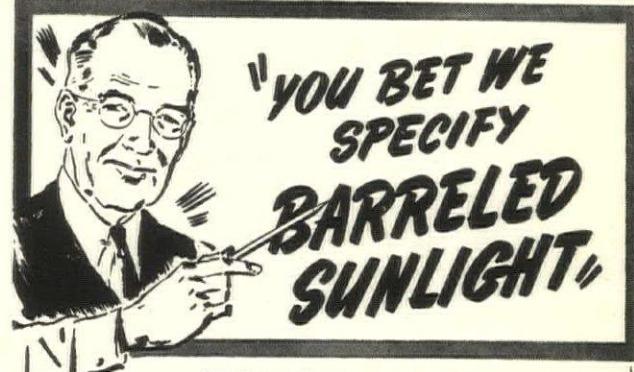
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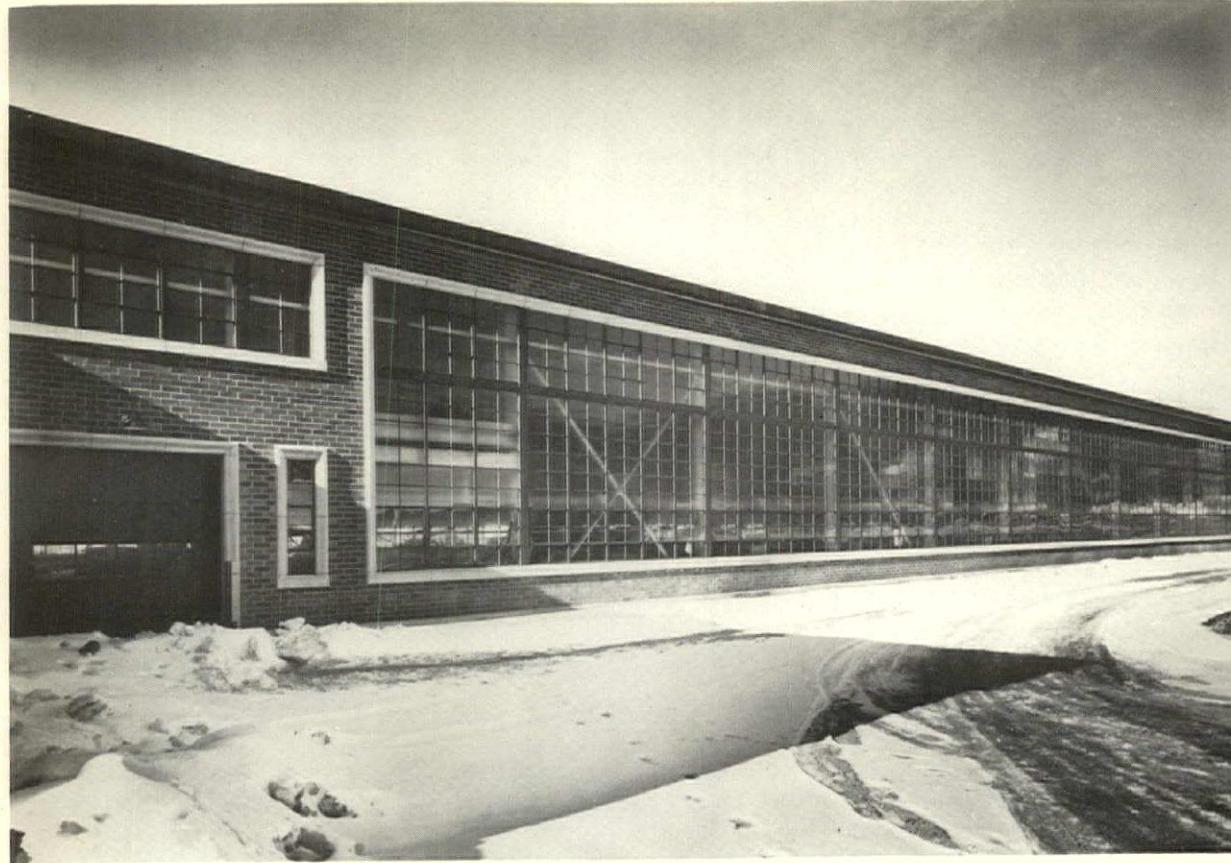
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Northeast Elevation of Kidder Press.



Interior of Machine Shop Toward Northeast by Artificial Illumination.

(Continued from page 9)

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Electrical by M. B. Foster Electric Company, Portsmouth, N. H., James P. Keenan Company, Dover, N. H.

Roofing and Sheet Metal by M. J. Murphy & Sons, Dover, N. H.

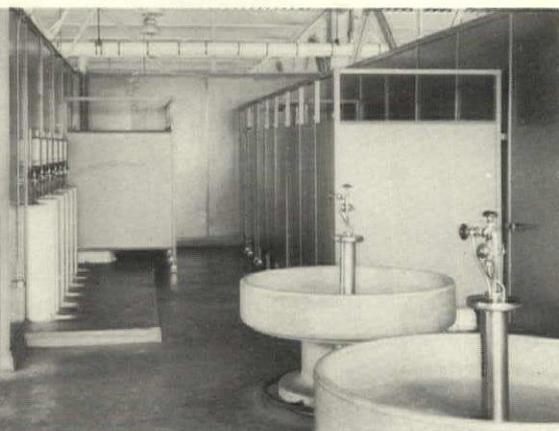
Traveling Cranes by Robert Abel Co., Inc., Boston, Mass.

Steel Work by Bethlehem Steel Company, Bethlehem, Pa.

Erection of Steel Work by Scanlon of Manchester, N. H.

Wood Block Floor by Kreolite.

Steel Sash by Detroit Steel Products.



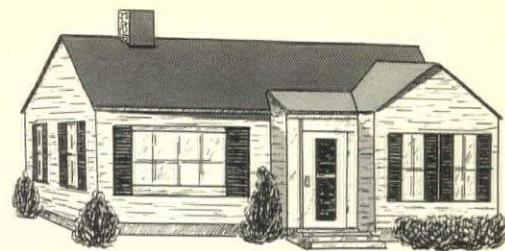
Shower and Toilet Rooms on Mezzanine.

J. S. Architects win top awards at Pan-American Congress

J. S. architects have won the highest awards examples of executed work shown at the Pan-American Congress of Architects recently concluded at Havana, Cuba.

The United States also won the First Grand Prize of Honor for its architectural exhibit of 9 panels of photographs and models, arranged and catalogued by The American Institute of Architects. Mexico was awarded Second Grand Prize; Cuba, third.

Individual awards were based on excellence in design for buildings in various categories which had been constructed from 1947 through 1949. Countries having the greatest number of high awards were awarded the grand prizes.



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ARCHITEXTOPICS

By Eugene F. Magenau

Having participated in recent meetings and hearings on the Public Works section of House Bill No. 1, the Reorganization Bill, the author of this column feels that an informal report may be of general interest.

Late in April an informal meeting was held at the Concord office of Attorneys Gordon Tiffany and Winslow Osborne, special assistants to the Reorganization Commission. Present were the Secretary of the Commission, the Highway Commissioner, representatives of the Associated General Contractors, several attorneys, and architects Gene Magenau and Leo Provost representing the New Hampshire Chapter of A. I. A. The meeting was called on very short notice and there was no opportunity to study the bill in advance. Nevertheless several vital points were clarified as a result of the round table discussion and the bill as written contained these improved clauses.

The architects should know and appreciate that this was an unusual opportunity to iron out wrinkles before the bill was even printed. None of the "improved" clauses were later objected to at the public hearing, but some of the points which we had been unable to straighten out did become controversial. For example, when does a building project become a "major" project? And does the bill mean to its administrators the same as it means to architects or engineers when it says that the Department of Public Works and Highways is "authorized to supervise the execution of contract construction....?"

These and other unsettled questions led to the presentation of testimony at the public hearing on May 3 which attempted to straighten them out without destroying the framework of the bill, with the objectives of which we are in general accord.

Prior to the hearing another informal meeting was held with Messrs. Henry Newell, Secretary-Treasurer of the N. H. Society of Engineers, and Howard Goodspeed, Chairman of the Board of Registration for Architects, who has long been interested in the public works set-up. It developed naturally that the engineers' problems are similar to the architects and we were able to coordinate the suggestions which were later made at the public hearing. It is possible

that we went too far in trying to get professional and trade practice incorporated into the bill, but if so it was because the terminology, especially the use of the word "supervision," raised doubts as to what the administration would or could do.

It would be unfortunate if our worthy legislators received the impression that the architects and engineers were trying to stack the cards in their own favor, in the name of protecting private enterprise. If our suggestions were taken in the spirit in which they were given, the lawmakers would know that we fully appreciate the difficulties of writing good legislation into law, and would be receptive to whatever help we might offer.

As of this writing, it is not known how many, if any, of the amendments submitted will be adopted. But it appears probable that the Reorganization Bill as a whole will pass, in some form or another. Even if none of the amendments are accepted, the architectural and engineering professions in this state will have made a tremendous advance, possibly further than in any other state, by inclusion of a policy declaration in the bill "that major projects shall be built by the contract method under competitive bidding, and that independent registered professional architects and registered professional engineers shall be employed for all major construction of buildings."

She was on her way home from a first aid course when she espied a man lying on the sidewalk, his face cradled on one arm, and the other arm twisted under him in a peculiar fashion.

Without a moment's hesitation, heedless of the gawking bystanders, she leaped astride him and began applying artificial respiration.

After several minutes of this, the victim spoke up: "Lady, would you please quit tickling me? I'm trying to hold a lantern for this fellow down in the man-hole."

"Are you a good little boy?"

"Nope. I'm the kind of a little boy my mother doesn't want me to play with."

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ANNUAL MAY MEETING

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Dinner 6:00 P. M.

Business meeting between main course and
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Report on the A. I. A. Convention by dele-
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Presentation of the New England Chapter of
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Highlights of 82nd Annual Convention Recently Held

Sessions opened by President Ralph Walker
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Keynote address by Henri Bonnet, Ambassador from France.

Daily symposia on illumination and urban and regional planning—the latter in honor of Pierre Enfant, first planner of the City of Washington which is celebrating its sesquicentennial this year.

Host to the convention—the Washington-Metropolitan Chapter of the Institute, Dr. Paul Goettelmann, A. I. A., President.

Gold Medal of the Institute presented to Sir Patrick Abercrombie, outstanding British architect and city planner.

Exhibition of contemporary American architecture which won first grand prize for the United States at the VII Pan-American Congress of Architects in Havana, Cuba, last month.

Exhibition of residential, commercial and ecclesiastical design winners of the second national honor awards program.

Fine Arts Medal awarded to Edward Steichen, New York, for achievement in the field of photography.

Craftsmanship Medal awarded to Joseph Rindner Reynolds, Jr., of Boston, for distinguished work in stained glass design and execution.

Address, "How Should our Cities Grow?" by Julian Windels, prominent lawyer and consultant in city planning.

Meeting with the Joint Committee on the National Capitol, with addresses by Major General U. S. Grant, III, on "150 Years in the Life of the Federal City"; and by President Walker on "Fifty Years Hence in the Federal City."

Also assorted tours, parties, business meetings, meetings with A. I. A. affiliated organizations, etc. Post Convention tours to Bermuda, Williamsburg and Natural Bridge, Virginia.



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Building Contracts Up 20 Percent in Granite State

Boston—The first quarter dollar volume contracts awarded for building and heavy engineering works in New Hampshire registered a 20 per cent increase this year over the three months figure of last year, James A. Hardin, district manager of F. W. Dodge Corporation, reported today.

The cumulative dollar volume for the quarter just ended was \$3,793,000 while the aggregate amount for the corresponding period last year was \$3,152,000. Nonresidential awards showed a 39 per cent increase. Residential and heavy engineering awards advanced 3 and 2 per cent respectively.

Nonresidential projects, amounting to \$2,139,000 accounted for more than half this year's total. In this classification contract awards totaled \$1,544,000 for the three month period last year.

Heavy engineering during the first quarter rose from \$533,000 last year to \$543,000 while residential building awards rose from \$1,075,000 in 1949 to \$1,111,000 this year.

Total contracts awarded in this state last month was \$2,339,000 more than ten times the figure for the preceding month and 98 per cent greater than March 1949.

The largest increase last month was noted in nonresidential awards which totaled \$1,618,000. Residential building contract awards totalled \$479,000 and heavy engineering \$242,000 last month.

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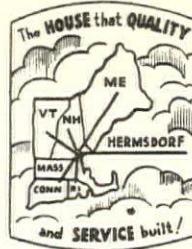
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